

bears are essential to the culture and history of our nation's Tribes and deserve strong protections.

The recent decision by the Department of the Interior to remove Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections from grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) remains controversial and is being challenged in court. While GYE grizzly bears have made significant progress towards recovery over the past forty two years, the population is still at risk of extinction from a suite of impacts, including habitat loss and fragmentation, climate change, decline of food sources, and human caused mortality. The best available science does not support the decision to delist the GYE grizzly bear population without putting in place strong safeguards to prevent population decline and maintain connectivity with other populations of grizzly bears. Removing protections reverses the progress that has been made over the last four decades under the ESA. Over 50 Tribal Nations stand in opposition to delisting and have raised concerns over the Department of the Interior's decision, particularly regarding the science, lack of transparency, and irreparable harm that delisting GYE grizzly bears would cause to Tribal sovereignty, sacred site protections, treaty rights, consultation mandates, and spiritual and religious freedoms.

To guarantee continued protection of all grizzly bears, the Tribal Heritage and Grizzly Bear Protection Act sets strong conservation standards for grizzly bears and their habitat. It bans trophy hunting and only permits the take of grizzly bears under a narrow set of circumstances: scientific or exhibition purposes, religious purposes of federally recognized Indian Tribes, and protection of agricultural interests and public safety. Grizzly bears are important top predators and help maintain ecosystems by keeping grazing populations in check, which prevents overgrazing of key habitats. They are a critical component of our landscapes and should not be hunted simply for sport. Additionally, grizzly bears have already lost large expanses of their historic range and existing habitat should be protected against further destruction.

Human caused mortalities of grizzly bears are a key threat to the species, including aggressive predator control of grizzly bears. This bill prohibits non-discriminatory predator control measures, such as those used by many states, which may result in the taking of grizzly bears on U.S. public lands. The bill also increases annual funding for livestock loss prevention programs to add prevention of loss from grizzly bears; productive, precautionary measures like these can address human-grizzly interactions much better than indiscriminate measures that kill large numbers of grizzly bears and result in few positive outcomes.

Finally, this bill affirms Tribal sovereignty and spiritual and religious rights. The grizzly bear is considered an ancestor by many Native American cultures, celebrated in numerous ceremonies, and is a key part of environments that include sacred and historical sites. This bill recognizes the grizzly bear's significance by requiring consultation with Tribes before permitting grizzly bear take and before major federal actions that may impact bears or their habitat. It also adds Tribal members to the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee and creates a much needed process and management partnership for reintroduction of grizzly

bears to suitable land of willing Tribes. Grizzly bears are a core part of Tribal heritage and healthy ecosystems, and it is critical to protect this remarkable species and the culture they embody.

#### CONGRATULATING TEAM USA ON THEIR SOLHEIM CUP VICTORY

##### HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Team USA for their victory over Team Europe in the Solheim Cup.

Team USA includes our nation's best women golfers, and they took home the title for the second consecutive time by defeating Team Europe 16½ to 11½. The team was led by captain Juli Inkster and South Florida native Lexi Thompson, the third best female golfer in the world. The Americans went into the final day of the tournament with a five-point lead and they fought hard to maintain it. Important final day victories by veteran Paula Creamer as well as South Florida's own Christie Kerr helped seal the win for Team USA.

All the members of Team USA played well throughout the tournament, and I am happy to congratulate them again on this impressive accomplishment.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF SACRAMENTO CENTRAL SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

##### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 130th Anniversary of Sacramento Central Seventh-Day Adventist Church. As the church community gathers to celebrate this momentous occasion, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring this well-established congregation in Sacramento.

The Sacramento Central Seventh-Day Adventist Church began as only a handful of Sacramento faithful who would meet every week near 14th and I Street. The first meeting occurred on November 9th, 1881, and the group grew all the way into the twentieth century. The congregation was then joined by a pastor and started a series of moves and construction projects as the burgeoning community necessitated ever more space for worship. This journey culminated in 1973, when the building that serves as the Central Church was constructed along the banks of the American River.

The members of the Sacramento Central Adventist Church have worked tirelessly to better the world around them, both at their doorstep with a host of services to benefit their local community and across the globe through mission trips. Their generosity and moral courage have won them many adherents in the course of their 130 years in Sacramento, and their journey is far from over.

Mr. Speaker, as the congregation gathers in honor of the 130th Anniversary of Sacramento

Central Seventh-Day Adventist Church, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring this staple of the Sacramento area and all it has provided to the community.

#### RECOGNITION OF DOUBLE TEN DAY, TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

##### HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Double Ten Day, the upcoming national day of Taiwan.

Taiwan celebrates its national day every October 10th. As this special day approaches, I would like to wish the people of Taiwan and all Taiwanese and Chinese Americans a happy Double Ten Day.

These occasions remind us to reflect on our past successes and look forward with renewed commitment to what we may accomplish together in the days and months ahead.

The United States and Taiwan share a special bond, forged by mutual respect and a steadfast commitment to one another's security and prosperity.

Through the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 and the deliverance of the Six Assurances by President Ronald Reagan in 1982, the United States and Taiwan cemented a strong friendship deepened by mutual strength in the face of hardship.

I believe the United States and Taiwan must continue to prioritize investment in defense capabilities that will secure its peace, but also want to recognize that the commitment to the bond between our nations extends to humanitarian support.

In fact, recently, officials Taipei pledged to donate \$800,000 to local governments and relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, which touched the lives of thousands of Americans. Taiwan rose up and came to the aid of our struggling communities—showcasing Taiwan's leadership and dedication to its relationship with the United States.

I would like to extend thanks to President Tsai Ing-wen and the people of Taiwan for their generosity and friendship, and again wish them a Happy Double Ten Day.

#### CELEBRATING THE LAUNCH OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY'S SOUTHERN ADIRONDACK RE- STORE

##### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the opening of Habitat for Humanity's Southern Adirondack ReStore.

Habitat for Humanity has a long history of serving Northern Saratoga, Warren and Washington counties by providing affordable housing to those in need. In order to continue its mission, Habitat for Humanity is expanding its services to a new ReStore in Moreau, New York. At this location, Habitat for Humanity will sell furniture, appliances, home accessories, building materials and more for an affordable

price. Habitat for Humanity's ability to offer these goods and services at the ReStore is made possible by the hard work of volunteers and donors throughout the community. By working on behalf of their neighbors, the volunteers of Habitat for Humanity continue to enrich the North Country community.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to thank Habitat for Humanity and its volunteers for providing an invaluable service to the North Country. We are grateful for Habitat for Humanity's commitment to this region, and look forward to the benefits that the ReStore will provide for years to come.

#### CONGRATULATING THE 106TH NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate President Tsai Ing-wen and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate the 106th anniversary of its National Day on October 10, 2017.

With the success of its sixth direct presidential election, Taiwan continues to serve as a beacon of vibrant democracy in the Asia-Pacific region.

We just celebrated the 38th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) this past April. The TRA was intended by Congress to endure an important relationship between close friends and allies. I am heartened by the strengthening of ties that have taken place in recent years, from Taiwan's admission to the U.S. Visa Waiver Program in 2012, and the first visit of a Cabinet-level official since the Clinton Administration in 2014. The bond between the United States and Taiwan is stronger than ever.

Taiwan is also a great friend in times of despair. Following the recent devastation of Hurricane Harvey, Taiwan generously contributed \$800,000 for relief efforts. In 2005, after Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, Taiwan, by the same token, offered a helping hand and donated \$2 million.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating our friend, Taiwan, on this important occasion.

#### CELEBRATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF PPL'S FUSE PROGRAM

**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the House's attention the 15th anniversary of FUSE, Pennsylvania Power and Light's employee business resource group for members of the LGBTQ community and their allies.

In 1920, eight Pennsylvania utilities came together to form the Pennsylvania Power and Light (PPL) Corporation. By 1928, the company—headquartered in the iconic PPL building in Allentown, Pennsylvania—would link with Philadelphia Electric Co. to form the world's first fully-integrated power pool.

For nearly a century, PPL has continued to grow and expand. Today, PPL services nearly 10 million customers in central and eastern Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and the United Kingdom. Furthermore, the company employs over 13,000 people.

PPL has demonstrated itself as an impressive business, based not only on its commitment to the greater Lehigh Valley and Pennsylvania's 15th District, but also on its commitment to its employees. The FUSE business resource group is a shining example of this commitment.

FUSE was founded 15 years ago to promote and provide an inclusive, considerate, and diverse work environment for PPL employees who identify as part of the LGBTQ community. The program allows LGBTQ employees and their allies to come together to tackle workplace projects and pursue meaningful professional development opportunities. Fifteen years removed from FUSE's founding, PPL's commitment to its LGBTQ employees was honored earlier this year when it was named a 2017 Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

PPL is a valued member of Pennsylvania's 15th District and a respected corporate citizen, powering our communities and providing good jobs and good wages to our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to offer my congratulations to the men and women of Pennsylvania Power and Light, on the 15th anniversary of the FUSE program's founding. May they continue to be champions of diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

#### CONGRATULATING HAR SINAI CONGREGATION ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Maryland was founded as a haven for freedom of worship, and our state is proud to be home to religious institutions and communities that enrich the life of our state and our country. One of those is the Har Sinai Congregation in Owings Mills. Founded on May 15, 1842, it is the oldest continuously operating Reform Jewish congregation in the United States. This year marks the 175th anniversary of its establishment.

Drawing on practices adopted by some of the first Reform synagogues in Europe, Har Sinai Congregation served a small community of immigrants first in Baltimore and later, as the community grew, in the suburbs. The synagogue's first leader, Rabbi David Einhorn, arrived in 1855 and became one of the central voices of American Reform Judaism in the nineteenth century. The 'Olath Tamid' siddur he published in 1856 went on to become a template for the Union Prayer Book later adopted widely by Reform congregations across the country. Rabbi Einhorn also preached against slavery, a courageous act to undertake in a Southern state where that horrific institution was still practiced. His abolitionism eventually led him to flee to Philadelphia in 1861, escaping a violent, pro-Confederacy riot in Baltimore during the Civil War.

Among the clergy who followed in leading Har Sinai Congregation was Rabbi David Philipson, an American-born scholar and theologian who led the community from 1884 to 1888. A member of the first graduating class of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, he would go on to become one of the most prominent Reform rabbis of his age, authoring books on history, theology, and literature while speaking out against anti-Semitism and, in his later years, the rise of Nazism. Today, the congregation is led by Rabbi Linda Joseph, a native of Australia and the first woman to lead the community, having taken up the pulpit there last year.

Now a congregation of more than 400 families, and with more than 200 students in its religious school, Har Sinai Congregation has become one of Maryland's most active and dynamic synagogues. With the mantra of 'worshipping together; caring together; working together,' its members are putting into practice the ancient Jewish precepts that call for social justice, charitable works, education, and community engagement. On Shabbat and holidays, congregants gather in worship and join in liturgical song, led by Cantor Robert Gerber, as they continue the traditions of American Reform Judaism that Har Sinai Congregation helped establish.

I join in congratulating the clergy, lay leadership, and congregants of Har Sinai Congregation on reaching this milestone in the community's history, and I wish all of them a Shana Tovah U'Metuka—a sweet and happy new year for 5778.

#### CONGRATULATING THE CHINESE AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Chinese American Medical Society as they host their 54th Annual Scientific Symposium and Annual Red Lantern Gala.

This year, CAMA is focusing on advancing women's health. Throughout its history as one of the most successful national Chinese American Medical Societies, CAMA has sought to eliminate health disparities for Chinese Americans and other underserved minority populations. Each year, the Symposium is an opportunity for many of medicine's most foremost experts to gather, collaborate and ultimately impact lives.

Their annual Red Lantern Gala is a chance to celebrate the ground breaking work of all those who have dedicated their lives to advancing health and well being for Chinese Americans. I'd especially like to salute this year's honorees: Dr. Anna Suk-Fong Lok with the 2017 CAMS Scientific Award, and Mr. Michael J. Dowling, Mr. Peter Lau and Dr. Wai Lap Leung with the Community Service Award.

I applaud CAMA for their unwavering dedication to improving health outcomes for Chinese Americans both in New York City and around the country.